Representation against Election Commissioner

3082 SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Members of Parliament against the Election Commissioner;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The representations are letter dated 22.3.2006 signed by Shri Amar Singh, M.P. and other M.Ps. of Telugu Desam, Samajwadi Party and a separate Petition dated 8.4.2006 signed by Members of Parliament belonging to NDA.

(c) The petitions are being examined by the Government.

Cases pending in Jharkhand High Court

†3083. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending in the High Court of Jharkhand at present;

(b) the number of new cases filed in Jharkhand High Court every year and the number of cases disposed off out of them; and

(c) the percentage of increase or decrease in pending cases every year?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Total number of cases pending as on 10.5.2006 in the High Court of Jharkhand is 44395 (Forty four thousand three hundred and ninety five only).

(b) and (c) The number of cases instituted every year since 2001 and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

disposal per year out of pending cases and the percentage increase of pendency year-wise is given below:—

Year	Pendency at the beginning of the year	Institution	Disposal	Pendency at the end of the year	%age increase in pendency
2001	14838	22885	23258	14465	—
2002	14465	22764	18635	18594	28.54
2003	18594	24807	21687	21714	16.77
2004	21714	33452	19354	35812	64.92
2005	35812	24392	16334	43870	22.50
2006 (1st qtr.)	43870	6427	5902	44395	—

Appointment of retired judges

†3084. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that retired Chief Justice of India Hon'ble Shri J.S. Verma (Supreme Court), and former Attorney General Shri Soli Sorabjee have offered to provide their services as *adhoc* judges to ease the ever-increasing burden of cases;

(b) if so, Government's reaction in this regard;

(c) the names of other retired High Court and Supreme Court Judges who have submitted similar proposals; and

(d) the details of action being taken by Government with regard to the ever increasing burden of cases and decreasing number of judges?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The Supreme Court have informed that they have no information in regard to the offer made by the retired Chief Justice of India, Shri Justice J.S. Verma and former Attorney General, Shri Soli Sorabjee offering their services as *adhoc* judges.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such proposal has been received by the Government from any of the retired Judges of the High Courts.

(d) Various steps have been taken by the Government for the speedy disposal of cases which include setting up of fast track courts, amendment to the Civil Procedure Codes, permanent adalats for disputes relating to public utilities, increase in the number of posts of Judges, establishment of special courts/tribunals, improvement in the standard of legal education,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.